

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 EB-08 AID-05 IGA-02 COME-00
HA-05 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 /092 W
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FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9041

UNCLAS SINGAPORE 5153

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SPOP, SN
SUBJECT: DEVELOPMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR

REF: A. STATE 270245 B. SINGAPORE A-91

1. SINGAPORE IS UNIQUE AMONG LDCS BECAUSE OF SMALL SIZE
AND POPULATION AND BECAUSE OF GOVERNMENT'S GREAT INTEREST
AND EFFECTIVENESS IN PROVIDING FOR BASIC HUMAN NEEDS.
INDEED, SINGAPORE, WITH PER CAPITA GNP SECOND ONLY TO THAT
OF JAPAN IN ASIA, SEEMS RELUCTANTLY TO BE GRADUATING
FROM RANKS OF LDCS.

2. GOS POPULATION PROGRAM IS REGARDED AS MODEL FOR THIS
AREA. PARTLY BECAUSE OF SMALL POPULATION SIZE AND LIMITED
LAND AREA, PROGRAM'S "COVERAGE" IS FULLY ADEQUATE.
POPULATION CLINICS ARE BACKED UP BY GOS SOCIAL
POLICIES THAT STRONGLY REINFORCE FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAMS:
E.G. ADMISSION TO SCHOOLS MORE DIFFICULT FOR THIRD
OR SUBSEQUENT CHILDREN. IN THIS CONTEXT, THERE WOULD
SEEM TO BE LITTLE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL INITIATIVES ON PART
OF PRIVATE COMPANIES. OTHER BASIC HUMAN NEEDS ALSO
EXCEPTIONALLY WELL MET BY GOS: OVER HALF OF POPULATION
LIVES IN PUBLIC HOUSING, FREE PUBLIC EDUCATION PROVIDED
THROUGH SECONDARY LEVEL, PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS
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DEVELOPED FOR ALL CLASSES OF POPULATION.

3. U.S. COMPANIES HERE ARE LEADERS IN EMPLOYEE
BENEFITS. SEVERAL OF LARGER PLANTS (E.G., TEXAS
INSTRUMENTS AND SUNDSTRAND) HAVE EXCELLENT EMPLOYEE
TRAINING PROGRAMS, PROVIDE ON-SITE MEDICAL CLINICS,
SUBSIDIZE PLANT CAFETERIAS, AND PROVIDE LIMITED SPORTS

FACILITIES. HEAD OF NATIONAL TRADE UNIONS CONFERENCE RECENTLY SAID MAIN PROBLEM OF UNIONIZING TI IS OUTSTANDING TREATMENTNIT ALREADY AFFORDS ITS WORKERS. THE ABOVE-MENTIONED FACILITIES, HOWEVER, ARE PROBABLY NOT DEVELOPMENTAL IN SENSE INTENDED REFTEL.

4. THREE INDUSTRIAL TRAINING INSTITUTES SPONSORED AND LARGELY FUNDED BY TATA (INDIA), ROLLEI (W. GERMANY) AND PHILIPS (NETHERLANDS) ARE CLOSER TO DEVELOPMENTAL ACTIVITIES. THESE WERE ESTABLISHED WITH STRONG ENCOURAGEMENT BY GOS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL TRAINING AT HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE LEVEL. WHILE TRAINEES ARE EXPECTED TO WORK FOR RESPECTIVE SPONSOR COMPANIES FOR TWO OR THREE YEARS AFTER GRADUATION, THEY ARE TRAINED IN NUMBERS GREATER THAN THOSE REQUIRED BY COMPANIES AND MOST OF THEM MOVE ON TO OTHER FIRMS. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED INFORMAL REQUEST THAT USG CONSIDER SIMILAR INSTITUTION UNDER AMERICAN SPONSORSHIP (SEE REF B).

5. APART FROM POSSIBILITY OF AMERICAN TECHNICAL TRAINING INSTITUTE AND NORMAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS MENTIONED ABOVE, WE SEE NO AREAS IN WHICH GAP IN MEETING BASIC HUMAN NEEDS COULD BE MET BY U.S. COMPANIES. WE FRANKLY BELIEVE THAT U.S. PRIVATE INITIATIVES MIGHT MORE USEFULLY BE TAKEN IN COUNTRIES

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WHERE GOVERNMENT IS LESS ABLE OR WILLING TO MEET ITS POPULATION AND BHN OBJECTIVES.
HOLDRIDGE

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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